

The Romulus News

JANUARY 23, 1998 - FEBRUARY 5, 1998

"the little paper"

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 13

Timely Tidbits ...**Chili Cook-off/
Euchre Tournament**

You don't have to be a member of the Romulus High School Alumni Association to participate in the organization's 6th Annual Chili Cook-off and Euchre Tournament, set for Saturday, February 28, in Rooms 507 and 508 at the High School.

Cook-off participants should bring a pot of chili (made from their favorite mild or spicy recipe; it doesn't have to be anything fancy) to Room 507 by 6:30 p.m. so that judges and other attendees can begin sampling the entries (along with condiments and dessert supplied by the Association). Alumni Association Coordinator Marge Bergman is hoping for lots of entries to make this year's contest really exciting.

The euchre tournament will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Other highlights of the evening will be the awarding of prizes and a 50-50 drawing.

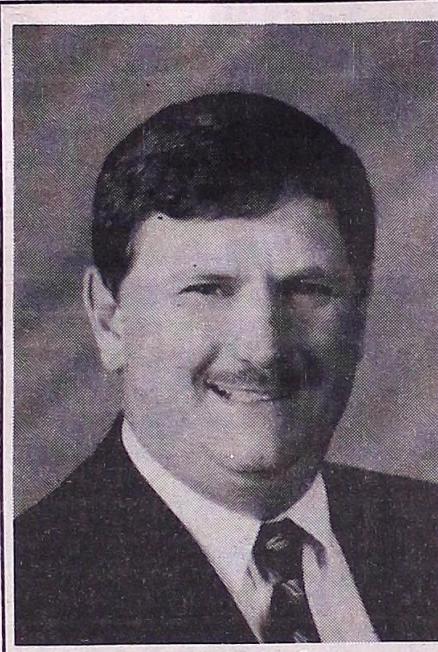
For more information, please call Bergman at 941-0610 (day) or 326-0889 (evening).

**Tax Assessor Is Guest
on *The Mayor's Chair***

William Griffin, Tax Assessor for the City of Romulus, will be the special guest on the next edition of *The Mayor's Chair*, a live call-in program which will air on cable channel 40 on Tuesday, February 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Note: This particular program deviates from the usual second-Thursday-of-the-month schedule because February 12 is Lincoln's birthday.)

Anyone who wishes to be an audience member must be seated in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall no later than 6:15 p.m.; those watching from home can phone in their questions (after 6 p.m.) by calling 942-7571.

If you have an idea or suggestion for a program topic, or would like to serve as a panel member on a future edition of the program, please call Mayor William Oakley's office (942-7572). □

Police To Get Video Cameras for Patrol Cars

Councilman William Crova

Nearly half of Romulus' marked police cars will soon be equipped with a video camera, thanks largely to a grant which has been awarded to the City by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The \$45,426 Police Block Grant will be supplemented with an additional \$5,047 in "matching" funds (approved by the Romulus City Council at its January 5, 1998 meeting) to purchase eight or nine in-car video units. Although the actual bid process has not

been completed, it is expected that each unit will cost approximately \$5,000.

Romulus Police Chief Charles E. Kirby, who initiated the grant application, believes that the new equipment will be a significant aid to effective law enforcement.

"The eye of the camera is the most objective of witnesses," Kirby explained. "When our officers, wearing wireless microphones, leave their patrol cars, the new equipment will make a video and audio record of what transpires between the officers and the people they interact with."

Councilman William Crova, who supported Councilman LeRoy Burcroff's motion to accept and match the grant money, later stated, "I'm very pleased that Romulus is taking advantage of this great opportunity to protect both its police officers and its citizens. Recording events as they occur will make it easier to clear up any future disputes that may arise."

"Eventually, I would like to see all patrol cars similarly equipped," he added.

According to statute, a Police Block Grant may be used for eight purposes only:

- to hire, train, and employ, on a continuing basis, new, additional law-enforcement officers and necessary personnel;

- to pay overtime to presently employed law-enforcement officers and necessary support personnel for the purpose of increasing the number of hours worked by such personnel;
- to procure equipment, technology, and other material directly related to basic law-enforcement functions;
- to enhance security measures in and around schools and in and around any other facility or location which is considered by the unit of local government to have a special risk for incidents of crime;
- to establish crime-prevention programs which involve cooperation between community residents and law-enforcement personnel in order to control, detect, or investigate crime or prosecute criminals;
- to establish or support drug courts;
- to enhance the adjudication process of cases involving violent offenders, including the adjudication process of cases involving violent juvenile offenders; and/or
- to establish a multijurisdictional task force - particularly in rural areas - composed of law-enforcement officials representing units of local government that works with federal law-enforcement officials to prevent and control crime.

* * *

continued on page 3

RHS Students Collect for the Homeless

By Amber Nicole Long, Romulus High School student

Most people think of athletics when they hear the title, Mega League. However, the Mega League is much more than sports. Within the Mega League is a very active student activities division. The Mega League West Division (to which Romulus High School belongs) is composed of 14 high schools from Wayne and Monroe counties. The high schools meet approximately once per month to plan activities that would benefit communities, schools, and students.

On Saturday, January 24, 1998, the Mega League West Division will host its first annual "Mega Difference Day" throughout the 14 communities within the West Division. Each school has chosen a service project to perform on this day. Romulus High School students will scavenge the City for toiletries (soap, toothbrushes, mouthwash, toothpaste,

combs, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) - as well as other useful items such as clothing and blankets - to donate to homeless shelters. Check your drawers and cupboards for all those sample-size products that you picked up during your last hotel/motel or hospital stay; they fit nicely in a homeless person's pocket. Whether full-size or sample-size, the items you donate can help us to make a difference on January 24, 1998.

We will be coming through the Castle Drive subdivision, the Oakbrook subdivision, the Halecreek subdivision, and the subdivision across from the High School between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 noon on Saturday, January 24. You may leave your donations on the front porch, or we'll ring your bell with a friendly reminder. If you have a donation but do not live in our pickup area, please call the Project Serve office at Romulus High School (942-2170,



Amber Nicole Long

ext. 809) - or bring it directly to us when we set up our simulated homeless society on the front lawn of the High School (anytime after 5 p.m. on Saturday through noon on Sunday). □

Guest Commentary

The ATM Conspiracy: Double Charging

By John F. Freeman, State Representative, 34th District

Every day, tens of thousands of people and businesses across Michigan use automatic teller machines (ATMs) to deposit and withdraw their money. With both spouses working, the ATM provides a modern banking service that's hard for middle-class people to live without.

Since April of 1996, in order to withdraw money from an ATM, a consumer has to pay *two fees!* I believe that this second fee, called a *surcharge fee*, is excessive and unreasonably takes advantage of the consumer who has little choice but to use an ATM. I have therefore introduced legislation, called the *ATM Consumer Protection Act*, that will prohibit banks from levying this fee.

The ATM is convenient for the consumer because it's open 24 hours, and banks like them because it is less expensive to own and operate them than to hire and pay a human teller. Over the last 10 years, banks have built up a large ATM network and have encouraged consumers to use it. With the rise of the ATM network, banks have reduced the number of tellers and have closed down many bank branches.

Up until April of 1996, banks charged only an *interchange fee* (used to cover the cost of ATMs and the transaction) to those individuals who used an ATM that was owned and operated by another institution. Beginning that month, however, banks began charging a surcharge fee as well. Since the ATM network was substantially built by then, the only purpose behind banks charging a second fee is to make very large profits, knowing full well that middle-class people and families have very little choice but to use an ATM to do their banking.

According to the U.S. Government Accounting Office, revenue from sur-

charge fees levied since April of 1996 has increased 360%. In fact, the Public Interest Research Group estimates that banks will receive \$1.9 billion in surcharge fees this year. Consumers, on average, pay \$155 per year in surcharge fees, with families paying even more. Surcharge fees range from \$1 to \$3.50, and sometimes are even higher. Middle-class families are struggling to make ends meet, even with today's economy. They do not need to be paying double fees just to take their own hard-earned money out of an ATM!

Big banks are charging high surcharge fees as a tactic to drive small community banks and credit unions out of business. Since community banks and credit unions do not have the assets to build large numbers of ATMs, their customers generally have to use the ATMs of large banks and therefore have to pay the surcharge fees. Large banks tell these irate people that if they want to avoid paying the surcharge, they should just move their accounts to the big banks which do not charge such a fee to their own customers. If enough people move their accounts, small community banks and credit unions will not survive. This practice by big banks is anti-free market and will eliminate competition, which will further hurt consumers because, without competition, there is nothing to keep big banks from charging even higher fees for their services.

My *ATM Consumer Protection Act* will stop banks from levying the surcharge fee. Michigan will join the states of Iowa and Connecticut, which have already prohibited such fees. I understand paying a reasonable fee to cover the cost of the service, but I do not think it is appropriate to charge two fees.

Double dipping by big banks hurts middle-class families, small businesses, and farmers; warps the free market; and eliminates competition. Michigan families need to be protected against the greed of big banks and other ATM operators. My legislation will protect consumers from being overwhelmed with fees when they are simply trying to withdraw their own money.

Editor's note: The purpose of the "Guest Commentary" column is to provide members of the Romulus community and other interested parties with an opportunity to express their viewpoint on issues of interest to the people who live and do business here. Responsible individuals or spokespersons are invited to make use of this column, at no charge, at any time. For more information, contact Kristi Stephens, editor, at either 941-1907 or 941-3113. □

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CLUTCHES

Bennett Will Introduce Bill Banning Human Cloning

State Senator Loren Bennett (R-Canton Township) has announced he will introduce a bill making it illegal in Michigan to clone people.

Bennett's measure is being introduced in response to a recent announcement which was made by a Chicago scientist who said that he will attempt to clone human beings within the next two years.

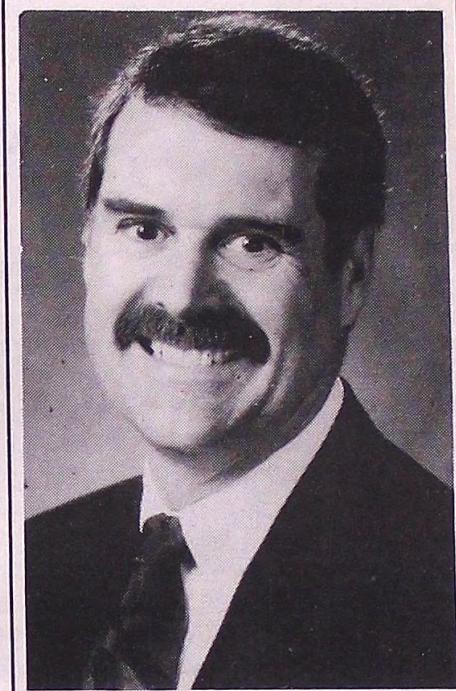
"While the cloning of sheep is now a reality, this procedure is far too dangerous to duplicate on human beings," the Senator stated. "There is too great a risk – not only of failure, but to human life – if the cloning of people is allowed.

"In addition, this raises huge ethical questions that are far from being answered in many people's minds," he continued.

According to researchers, the sheep-cloning procedure was attempted 277 times before it was successful.

Bennett said he plans to introduce his bill when the Legislature returns later this month.

"We need to protect life in all its



Senator Loren Bennett

natural beauty, not create an artificial life born of high-tech medical wizardry," he said. □

Police Department Update

continued from page 1

Holiday Safe and Sober Program a Local Success

Although the holidays were happy for millions of Michigan residents, law-enforcement and health-care officials were saddened to report that this season's Statewide efforts to curb drinking and driving deaths didn't equal last year's success. In 1996, there were no alcohol-related fatalities during the holiday season; in 1997, however, a total of 11 people were killed over Christmas and 18 over New Year's, with more than half of the New Year's crashes involving alcohol.

"The New Year's Day crash on US-23 near Ann Arbor provides ample evidence that more needs to be done to convince motorists to comply with traffic safety laws," said Executive Lieutenant Eric D. Painter of the Romulus Police Department. "With more than 200,000 motorists predicted to be driving under the influence of alcohol during this past holiday period, it's no surprise that a crash like this might occur."

In that crash, a drunk driver lost control of his vehicle, swerved across the median, flew into the air, and landed on top of a Grand Prix which had been transporting four young men home to Brighton from Kalamazoo. Three of the Grand Prix passengers were killed; a fourth is in critical condition.

"Locally, we put out 20 hours of additional patrol time as part of our department's commitment to the Statewide 'Safe & Sober' initiative," Painter

said. "As a result, our department arrested one driver for Operating Under the Influence (OUIL) and four for Driving while Suspended, and also issued 30 other citations for speed, seat belts, and other moving violations.

"We also continued to take enforcement actions during our regular patrols," he continued. "Our department arrested over 20 people for OUIL during the two-week enforcement wave, including three drivers on the night of New Year's Eve.

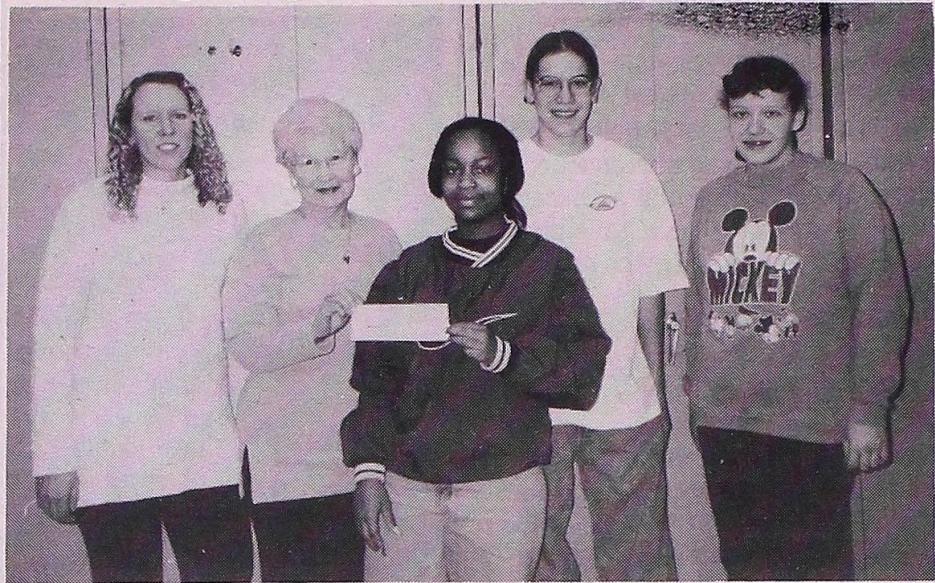
"Locally, we were pleased to report no fatalities or serious-injury accidents during the holiday period," said Painter. "We always hope that an injury- or death-free holiday signals lasting traffic-safety success. Unfortunately, that isn't usually the case, since some motorists continue to drink and drive, speed, and fail to wear safety belts."

Michigan Safe & Sober is a continuing-education and enforcement program funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, which seeks to reduce traffic-related deaths and injuries by targeting the State's highest crash areas. Enforcement takes place during highly traveled holiday periods, with special emphasis on safety belts, speed, alcohol violations, and aggressive drivers.

The remaining enforcement waves will take place over the Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day holiday periods. The Romulus Police Department will be putting out 20 hours of additional patrol during each of the remaining enforcement waves. □

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Students Raise Money for Helping Hand Thrift Shop



In what has become an annual holiday event, students and other volunteers – working under the direction of Romulus Middle School industrial arts teacher Frank Zarzycki – built and sold a number of beautifully crafted wagons to raise funds for the Helping Hand Thrift Shop in Romulus. Here, Middle School students present a check for \$1,000 to the Helping Hand's director, Florence Klein (second from left), and one of her volunteers, Phyllis Bolus (far left).

Some Well-deserved Thanks

Halecreek Halloween Helpers

On behalf of the Halecreek Elementary School PTG, Vice-president Peggy Staten would like to thank all the individuals and area businesses who helped to make the group's Halloween party (held October 25, 1997) such a howling success: Block's Stand & Greenhouse, Stears True Value Hardware, Fresh Approach, Checker Drugs, Romulus IGA, McDonald's (Taylor and Romulus), Burger King (Eureka Road, Taylor), Arby's (Eureka Road, Taylor), Romulus Recreation Department, Romulus Police Department (DARE), Romulus High School's/Kathy Hurst's "service learning" volunteers, Romulus Police Explorers, Chuck Uzts (for the great cookies), Debbie Demoisey (for collecting all the donations), James McKinney (for taking pictures), and all the Halecreek and Romulus residents and their children who decorated our halls, donated candy, cleaned up, helped in the kitchen, or got dressed up in a costume.

Staten reported that approximately 500 scary monsters to pretty princesses passed through the school's halls to collect candy and have hot dogs and treats. Fun was had by all.

Toys for Tots

Anita Berrey, coordinator for the Interline Association's Toys for Tots program, would like to thank the following businesses for their support of the 1997 campaign: Northwest Airlines (Romulus), Leonardo's Pizza (Romulus), All-State Insurance (Howell), Kay Jewelers

(Ann Arbor), Joey's Comedy Club (Livonia), J.B. Robinson Jewelers (Ann Arbor), Dexter Pub (Dexter), and Hallmark.

Drug-free New Year's Eve Lock-in

Special thanks go out to the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their generous donations, which made the first annual Drug-free New Year's Eve Lock-in such an overwhelming success: Romulus Community Schools (Romulus High School), School/Community Committee, Romulus City Council, Mayor's Drug Task Force, Romulus Recreation Department, Romulus Pastors' Association, Lower Huron Company, Len Simons, Tom Nappo, Leonardo's Restaurante, Jordan's, Liquidation Plus, Doug's Auto Repair, Super Lotto Liquor, Romulus Hardware, Kozy Korner, Golden Tanning, Open Pit BBQ, Family Pharmacy, Rally's, Old Guard Collectibles, Misty's Cards and Gifts, Nails and More, Joe's Coney Island, Taylor Florist, Taylor Mancino's Pizza & Grinders, Gander Mountain, John Bell's Hair Salon, Family Video, Cheryl's Beauté Salon, Skore Lanes, Subway, Metro Auto Repair, Family Hair Shop, Pizza Nut, Downriver Pest Control, Kiwanis Club of Romulus, Sole Deo Gloria Youth Group, Community United Methodist Men's Club, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Hollywood Video, Shoney's, Baskin Robbins, Star Theater, Crowne Plaza, Channel 42, Ken Greenwood, Sveden House Restaurant, Toarmina's Pizza, Video Stop, Caribbean Tanning, 7-Eleven, and Kroger's. □

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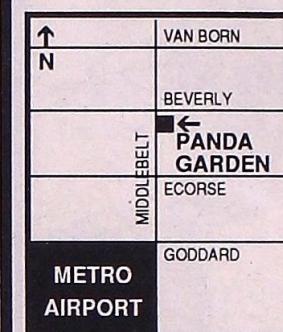
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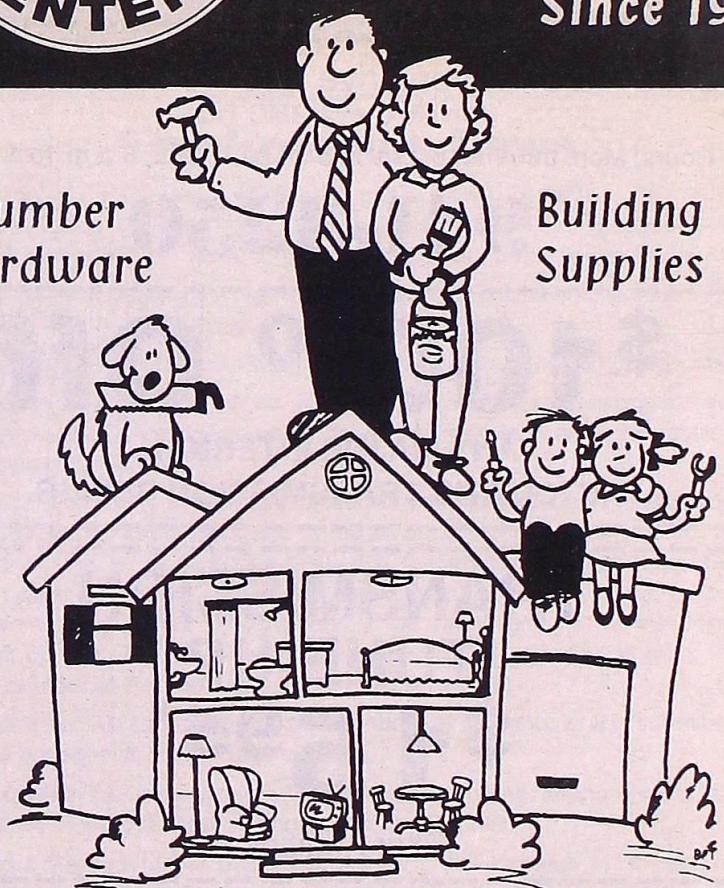
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Service-learning Students Research Homelessness



Under the direction of Romulus High School's Project SERVE director, Kathy Hurst (left), and instructor Phyllis Wilkerson (center), students interviewed Nikki Nealy (right), author of the soon-to-be-produced play about the homeless, *Ms. Flossy and Friends*.

Harvard University's Dr. Coles once said, "Homelessness is not a natural disaster; it is a national disaster." That's what Romulus High School students are learning as they research the topic of homelessness.

The students are particularly interested in the subject because they are currently involved in "homelessness awareness" projects throughout the community as part of their humanities/independent-studies classes. These projects include a community-wide "scavenger hunt" to gather toiletries and other necessities for the homeless (see page 1), as well as spending a night in

a mock homeless community, which will be set up on the front lawn of the High School on Saturday, January 24.

As part of their research, students met with and interviewed Nikki Nealy and L.A. Shelby, writer and director (respectively) of *Ms. Flossy and Friends*, a play about the homeless which will be performed at the Clarion Inn on Friday, February 20 (see below). Nealy shared stories and testimonials about the fact that any of us could become homeless at any time. Her words inspired students to pursue their projects in an effort to create an awareness that homelessness is everywhere. □

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Cory Food Drive Shows That Students "Can" Do



Collecting the most cans of food in Ms. Miller's fifth-grade class were (from left) Jimmy Gervel, Kim Wilson, Kevin DuFord, Danny Shinn, and Monika Burgess.

When members of the Cory Student Council wanted to plan a school activity that would make other people happy, they decided to collect canned food and give their collection to the Romulus Helping Hand Thrift Shop. Student Council Advisor Gayle Milspaugh agreed with the students, but knew that, to be successful, a lot of work would be required.

"At our meeting, I told them that their idea had merit – but, to be successful, the Council would have to work very hard," said Milspaugh. "That is just what they did."

The drive started in late November of 1997 with a "Food Basket Dance." Each student attending the dance had to donate two cans of food to the drive. The Student Council was well on its way to a successful project.

Further incentives included a gigantic wall mural showing the number of

cans each class had contributed, and a guarantee that every class donating 100 cans of food would receive a pizza party. Six classes exceeded the 100-can mark and received a pizza party on December 19.

Ms. Miller, the fifth-grade teacher for the class that collected the most cans (429), spoke for the class when she said, "The students enjoyed the competition, but their enjoyment was tempered by their realization of its grim necessity: namely, the fact that many people go hungry every day."

"They worked hard, and I am proud of their accomplishment," concluded Miller.

Miller's students used the collected cans for various learning activities in their classroom before sending them to the cafeteria, where they were stored before being sent to the Helping Hand Thrift Shop. □

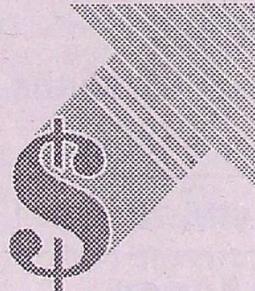
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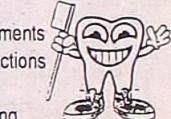
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plus
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2 Large Pizzas

(Up to 4 items)

plus • Small Dipsters

plus • Lrg. Tossed Salad w/cheese

plus • (1) 2-Liter Coke

\$22.99

plus
tax

4-Piece Cod

plus • 10 Jumbo Shrimp

plus • 1/2 lb. Chicken Strips

plus • Lrg. Toss Salad

\$15.99

plus
tax

2 Small
Pizzas

with Cheese & 2 Items

ONLY

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plus
tax

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RHS Students Honored

From September through December, 1997, teachers selected a total of 134 Romulus High School students to receive a "Student of the Month" award based on the youths' exceptional behavioral and academic performance. Students attending a brief ceremony in their honor received a certificate of achievement and, thanks to local sponsors, a \$50 U.S. savings bond.

Congratulations to the following Students of the Month.

September

Mubbeena Ahmad, Yulonga Appling, Ron Bell, Christina Bouquenoy, Andrea Coate, Renee Ervin, Tracie Finley, Dezzerra Freeman, Brian Gilliland, Gerard Gratiot, Molly Hackney, Amy Hudson, Lisa Itoney, Shawntee McPherson, Audrey Mullen, Heather Penny, Lequana Robinson, Emily Schulz, Falencia Ward, and Eddie Woods.

October

Christa Anderson, Derek Atkinson, Michael Babowicz, Jennifer Breeding, Aaron Brohl, Betty Jo Caines, Stephanie Canada, Danielle Carter, Sharice Carter, Angela Coate, Tyraa Collins, Erin Conway, Crystal Davidson, Amanda Dean, Michael Drysdale, Dominic Evitts, Erin Fisher, Terrence Fulton, Matthew Gibbons, Justin Goodman, Brandon Hindman, Aisha Hubbard, James Jackson, Shantia Kendrick, Crystal Massey, Jennifer Orme, Christopher Potter, Erika Reed, Adrienne Roberts, Leslie Slone, Amber Sparr, Eric Staten, Kisha Stewart, David Sundquist, Tamika Thompson, Princess Walker, Craig Welko, Kimberly Wessling, and Simon Woll.

November

Steven Abdo, Stacy Baas, Benita Bell, Tomeka Boles, Vanity Boyd, Jeffrey Brasili, Oliver Buffington, Thais Carter, Justin Chaney, Ashley Duncan, Nina Estes, Samuel Estes, Randy Frison, Brandi Gibson, Catrina Green, Claudette Hawkins, Shannon Herauf, Jason Hopkins, Aisha Hubbard, Brandi Huggins, Tommy

Jackson, Jay Jakeway, Nicole Laskaska, Stacey Luczak, Danielle McClue, Verlin McGowan, Joana Moton, Brandis Paden, Mandy Pate, Margaret Nehila, Steve Scibilia, Jennifer Richardson, Sarah Robinson, Gabriel Taylor, Brooke Thompson, Joshua Turner, and Eric Vlaz.

December

Michell Barley, Amanda Bilbrey, Curtis Bradford, Tara Brown, David Bullock, Taripreye Burutolu, Betty Jo Caines, William Chapman, Bataan Cline, Amanda Dean, Dominic Evitts, Norman Fehrenbach, LaDonna Franklin, William Gibson, Myron Gray, Alexis Houston, Robert Howard, Aisha Hubbard, Crystal Jenkins, Kathryn Jones, Stacey Luczak, Mike Martin, Nicole McKinney, Felicia Middlebrooks, Crystal Mincovsky, Kimberly Minner, David Moomaw, Audrey Mullen, Christopher Potter, Marnita Price, Eric Renner, Kimberly Russell, Linda Ryznar, Jamahl Scott, Justin Somers, Adam Weber, Robert Williams, and Georgia Williamson.

Bond Sponsors

Romulus High School Principal Melvin Kimbrough would like to thank the following sponsors for being Romulus High School's partners in education: Belleville Die Shop; Kenneth and Rosalie Berlin; C & C Trailer Service; Chem Central-Detroit; Dale Kennedy & Sons; Daly's Restaurant; Downriver Pest Control; Elkins Machine & Tool; Environ, Inc.; Form Flow, Inc.; Ganol; G.M. Powertrain; Graduate Services, Inc.; Header Products; Dr. Rhonda Hennessy, D.D.S.; Lambert & Lambert; Lear Seating Corp.; Art and Eva McDonald; Romulus Community Schools employees Louise Brody, Tom Dolan, and Jesse Meriweather; Romulus Auto Supply; Romulus Progressive Club; Romulus VFW; Dr. Kundan Sata, D.D.S., Dr. Milan Sata, D.D.S.; Saw & Specialty Corp.; Stears True Value Hardware; Total Petroleum, Inc.; Trans-Overseas Corp.; United Brass Manufacturers; and Westland Industries. □

RMS Students Honored



Romulus Middle School's December Students of the Month were chosen based on their exceptional behavioral and academic performance.

From September through December, 1997, teachers selected a total of 133 Romulus Middle School students to receive a "Student of the Month" award based on the youths' exceptional behavioral and academic performance. Students attending a brief ceremony in their honor received a certificate of achievement and a Romulus Middle School Bulldog ink pen; students' parents, who were also honored, received a Bulldog mug. Life management classes provided the delicious refreshments for the ceremonies.

Congratulations to the following Students of the Month.

September

Sarah Barnard, Kenneth Belcher, Clint Bergum, Amy Bowman, Christopher Brooks, Kristen Brooks, Paul Brown, Kelly Carroll, Lindsey Coleman, Davyn Cuffee, Kenneth Cushing, Eric Decker, LeChaunte Ellerson, Brenda Finley, Lisa Finley, Andrew Garfield, Julian Gelormino, Jerome Gray, Sarah Gray, Rick Hadyniak, Jennifer Harper, Bradley Hindman, Brian Longre, Jasmine Mark, Lonnie McCollum, Amelia McCray, Michael Moomaw, Kathryn Rushlow, Clayton Smith, Deon Solomon, Ray Woodrow, and Chianta Wyatt.

October

Paul Adkins, Shannon Allen, Amber Barnes, Lester Bell-Curry, Clint Bergum, Shanelle Bishop, Marida Bivens, Christopher Conley, Leah Cotham, Carlos Crockett, Amanda Crosby, Rochelle Davis, Tia Garrett, Jason Gianopoulos, Chanel Greer, Rick Hadyniak, Della Hamby, Jennifer

Harper, Candis Kizner, Jason Linderman, Natasha Lowe, Jazzmen Medley, Brandon Moring, Nicole Perva, Jennifer Randall, Donald Richison, Andrew Rodger, Charles Searcy, Nichole Starnes, Kevin Turner, Jerry White, Keishonda Williamson, Ray Woodrow, and David Wyscaver.

November

Shameah Abraham, Krista Alley, Kimberly Blankenship, Taritonye Burutolu, Jamie Cox, Cortney Daniels, Kenneth Dozier, Raymond Eggers, Glen Farmer, Andrew Foley, Jeremy Glenn, Jerome Gray, Shahidah Hasan, Rizwan Haq, Crystal Koch, Hilary Kozma, Andrea Marosan, Jacob Mercado, Anthony Molic, Devon Mostry, John Nehila, Heather Patrick, Jesse Patterson, Leslie Perez, William Polk, Amanda Rohde, Antoine Smith, Clayton Smith, Geoffrey Sparr, Stephanie Stillwagon, Bethany Swauger, Melissa Thornton, and Shamelia Womble.

December

Felicia An'noor, Marida Bivens, Chrystal Blair, Katie Bolus, Angela Bowdler, Christine Brasili, Kristen Brooks, Larry Brown, Shawn Caldwell, Roger Chapman, Shawn Clark, Sherri Davis, Kendal Duncan, Sarah Gray, Deana Hunter, Amanda Judy, Scott Kennedy, Nabila Khan, Nicholas McLaughlin, Jesse Morris, Erica Necker, Erica Ochs, Stephen Potoczek, William Pugh, Bobby Reifsnyder, Brandy Rogers, Michael Sandusky, LaTonya Staple, Karneill Teague, Matthew Thiede, Nicole Vlodyka, Troy Williams, Charles Wojtanowski, and Megan Woodrow.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

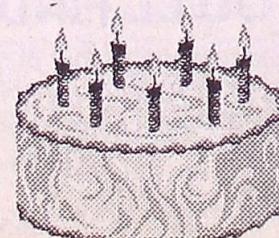
Marge Bergman

Friday, January 23rd

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Addie Sandusky

Tuesday, January 27th



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jeffery Royal

Monday, January 26th

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Community Calendar

- Board of Education To Meet at Cory School** – In its continuing effort to be more accessible to input from all Romulus neighborhoods by visiting the various District schools, the Romulus Board of Education will conduct one of its regular meetings (set for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 26) at Cory Elementary School. For more information, please call the Board Office at 941-1600 or Cory School at 721-4757.
- Little League Registration** – Romulus Little League Baseball will accept registrations for its 1998 season at the Romulus Recreation Department office (located at 36515 Bibbins) on the following dates: Friday, January 30, from 5 to 9 p.m.; Friday, February 6, from 5 to 9 p.m.; and Saturday, February 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is \$25 per individual or \$40 per family. (Note: All players must sell two cases of candy or pay \$50 extra.) To register youths ages five to 18 (player's age as of July 31, 1998), a parent or guardian must bring an original birth certificate and proof of residence, along with the entire registration fee. No Little League property will be issued without full payment. Early registration is encouraged, since fund-raising money turned in by April 3 earns a bonus! For more information, call either the Little League office (955-6204), Julie (941-6797), Debbie (942-9261), or Jeannette (941-6147).
- Recreation Department To Offer Clogging Classes** – Because of the growing popularity of this form of dance, the Romulus Recreation Department will begin offering clogging classes at Merriman Elementary School from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday beginning February 4. Registration for the class – which is open to both children (ages five and up) and adults – must be made at the Recreation office (located at 36515 Bibbins) no later than February 3. Cost is \$20 for the 10-week session.
- Giselle** – The American Ballet Theatre returns to the Detroit Opera House to perform *Giselle*, the oldest continually performed ballet, on Thursday, February 5 (8 p.m.), Friday, February 6 (8 p.m.), Saturday, February 7 (2 p.m. and 8 p.m.), and Sunday, February 8 (2 p.m.). Tickets may be purchased in person at the Detroit Opera House Box Office (1526 Broadway), Michigan Opera Theatre Ticket Services Office (104 Lothrop in the New Center Area), and all TicketMaster outlets, including Hudson's, Blockbuster Music, and Harmony House. Tickets may also be purchased by calling Michigan Opera Theatre (313-874-SING) or the TicketMaster chargeline at 248-645-6666.
- Fools** – The Huron Civic Theatre (located at 32044 Huron River Drive in New Boston) will present Neil Simon's *Fools* February 6–7 and February 13–15. Tickets are \$8 for adults; \$6 for students/senior citizens. For ticket information and performance times, call the Huron Civic Theatre Box Office: 782-5380.
- "Mr. Single, 1998"** – Single men age 21 and over are invited to enter the "Mr. Single, 1998" contest to be held at the Clarion Inn (9191 Wickham Road, Romulus) on Saturday, February 14, from 7 to 10 p.m. Winners will get to choose a date "out on the town" including chauffeured limousine service, dinner, and dancing) from a room full of single women! For information, call "Ms. L.A." at 313-563-6616.
- Bowling Night Will Raise Money for Flyers** – The Romulus Flyers Football League will host a bowling-night benefit at Woodhaven Lanes (20000 Van Horn; 675-3554) on Saturday, February 21, beginning at 10 p.m. The \$15-per-person donation includes three games of bowling (with free shoes), pizza, and door prizes. For ticket information, call Dan or Jeannette (941-6147).

To place information in the Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 941-4874; or call 941-1907 or 941-3113

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LEAPFROG

Write the word(s) that fits definition #1 into the correspondingly numbered box. Next, drop one letter and anagram (rearrange) the remaining letters to find the answer to definition #2. Perform the same drop-a-letter/anagram procedure on word #2 to arrive at the answer to definition #3. Place the first dropped letter in the space to the left of answer #1 and the second in the space to the right of answer #3. Repeat this process on each line of the puzzle. If the puzzle is done correctly, the dropped letters, read from top to bottom, will describe an event which is supposed to occur each February 2.

1	2	3	
4	5	6	
7	8	9	
10	11	12	
13	14	15	
16	17	18	
19	20	21	
22	23	24	
25	26	27	
28	29	30	
31	32	33	
34	35	36	
37	38	39	

DEFINITIONS

1. Brief or cursory look
2. Unsoiled; spotless
3. Walking stick
4. Longtime friends
5. Trigonometric ratio
6. Between then and now
7. Dog breed
8. Trotted; jogged
9. Begged
10. Used a sealant to make something watertight
11. Was deficient
12. Decorative sticker
13. Brand name for a guitar
14. Put off; postpone
15. Type of instrument, such as an oboe or clarinet
16. It's the C in CRT
17. Romulus City Clerk
18. Instruct
19. Gather; reap
20. Suffer from food deprivation
21. Roman goddess of the hearth
22. Pledge; vow
23. Smile coyly
24. Period of peak physical condition
25. Specters; apparitions
26. Jiggers
27. Mix lightly, as salad greens
28. Cardigan, for one
29. Christian celebration of the resurrection of Jesus
30. Concise; succinct
31. The British call them "nappies"
32. Elaborate meal
33. These fruits come in varieties such as Bartlett and Bosc
34. Situated; positioned
35. Covered all over with a thin layer of material
36. Student at a military academy
37. Attorney
38. Worn out; tired
39. It's often divided into subunits of 12.

YOU'LL FIND IT IN "GROUNDHOG"

How many words of four or more letters can you form using only the letters in GROUNDHOG? A letter can be used more than once only if it appears more than once. Proper nouns, obsolete and archaic words, informal words, slang, poetic words, hyphenated words, contractions, and foreign words are not permitted.

For solutions, see page 11

Community High School – A Good Alternative

Community High School is a program for students 16 to 19 years of age who are seeking an alternative to the traditional high-school setting. Most classes are held at the Mt. Pleasant Center (located at 39000 Superior in Romulus) from 3 to 9:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Friday.

What makes Community High unique?

- Small-size classes meet in two-hour blocks.
- Emphasis is placed on applied academics, career connections, and technical/vocational training.
- Individual and group personal-development sessions are conducted by trained counselors.
- Job, college, and military opportunities are explored with the students.

- Teaching and support staff are focused on providing academic success and healthy personal growth for each student at Community High School.
- Computer technology is integrated into each academic area.
- Students have the opportunity to earn credit for work experience, community service, and the successful passing of the Stanford Achievement Test.
- Students have the ability to earn credits for each nine-week quarter that they complete with a 70% competency in each class.

Third-quarter classes begin Monday, January 26, 1998. For questions or an appointment to register for classes, please call 734-941-0610 after 2 p.m. and ask for Community High. □

Air Bag Switch Applications Available From AAA

Motorists wanting government permission to have air-bag on/off switches installed can find application forms and educational material at AAA Michigan offices.

"The on/off switch preserves the safety value of air bags while offering protection for the few people at risk from air-bag deployment," said AAA Michigan Community Safety Services Manager Jerry Basch. "The decision to have switches installed should only be made after careful consideration of the facts."

In November, the Federal government announced that motorists "fitting certain risk profiles" would be allowed to have switches installed to temporarily disable air bags. Before the switches can be installed, motorists must apply for and receive authorization from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The government began processing applications on December 18. January 19 was the first day that switches could be installed.

To get government approval for switch installation, motorists must pledge at least one of the following:

- cannot avoid placing rear-facing infant seats in the front passenger seat;
- have a medical condition that places them at specific risk;
- cannot adjust their position to keep back approximately 10 inches from the air bag;
- cannot avoid situations – such as a car pool – that require a child 12 or under to ride in the front seat.

Air bags are credited with saving

2,600 lives. They also have been implicated in 87 deaths. In most of the related fatalities, the person killed was improperly restrained or positioned too close to the air bags.

AAA reminds motorists that the safest place for children to ride is in the back seat, even in vehicles not equipped with air bags.

"For children, the key to air-bag safety is to be restrained properly in the back seat," Basch said. "For adults, the key is to be restrained properly with a safety zone of at least 10 inches between their chest and the air bag." □

EIC Eligibility

You can apply for an Earned Income Credit on your 1997 income tax return if yours is a family: making less than \$25,760; having one qualifying child who lives with you at least half the year; and having at least one worker in the household. Your credit could be as much as \$2,210. If your family had an income of less than \$29,290 and had more than one qualifying child, your credit could be as much as \$3,656. To apply for the credit, you must file a federal income tax form (Form 1040A or 1040) along with Schedule EIC.

If you do not have a qualifying child, are aged 25 to 64, and your income is less than \$9,500, your EIC could be as much as \$332. □

Wedding Wise

Let Your Treasure Give New Pleasure

By Marjean

You spent many hours selecting the "right" gown for your special day – your wedding! You not only picked the perfect gown, but had the alteration mistress take it in or let it out to make it a perfect fit. The color, texture, intricate lace pattern – all were decided by you after spending many hours leafing through tons of wedding books and then trying on many styles at the local stores – just to find the "right" gown that you simply could not live without. But, now that the big day has come and gone, what to do with this perfect gown?

- Have the gown cleaned at a cleaners that specializes in wedding dresses and their preservation.
- Think about passing the dress down to your daughter as part of a family tradition.
- If you decide not to keep your dress, think about placing it with a consignment shop. You will not only share your dress with another happy bride, but you will also earn extra money! Now, isn't that better than hanging it in a closet or storing it in a box under the bed?

When you decide to take your gown to a consignment shop, make certain that the gown is in good condition and cleaned. The shop will display your gown and give its clients the opportunity of having a "perfect" wedding in a "perfect" gown, just as you had.

For information on consigning your wedding gown, call 734-722-7400. □

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Is seeking contributions of:

small and family-size hams, turkeys, and pot roasts, as well as bacon, tuna, 1-lb. packages of ground beef, and staple items such as macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, canned goods, etc.

CASH DONATIONS ARE ESPECIALLY WELCOME!

Contributions may be dropped off on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Helping Hand Thrift Shop on Huron River Drive, west of 5-Points.

If you have questions, please call 941-5323

Cash donations may also be mailed to:
The Helping Hand • P.O. Box 74375 • Romulus, MI 48174

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Audry Moomaw, Manager of the Romulus Tower, and Linda Norman, Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Romulus, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(Note: For more information about events at the Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 942-6852.)

Free Tax Service for Seniors

Beginning February 4 and continuing through the end of the tax season, volunteers will be available (by appointment only) at the Romulus Senior Center each Wednesday from 12 to 3:30 p.m. to assist low- and moderate-income Romulus seniors with the preparation of their Federal and State 1040, home-heating, prescription, and property-tax forms. A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. For information, contact the Center.

Coffee Klatsch

As part of its celebration of Black History Month, the Romulus Senior Center will host a Coffee Klatsch on Monday, February 23, beginning at 9:30 a.m. A number of local, influential African-Americans will be special guests at the event. Watch for further details in the next issue of "the little paper."

Special Trips

Seniors interested in more information about these or other special trips that have been planned by the Romulus Senior Center should call Linda Norman at 942-6852. (Note: Deposits insure your seat for any bus trip. Complete payment is due at least two weeks prior to departure for day trips; for overnight trips, payment is due at least 30 days prior to departure. Checks may be made payable to either the City of Romulus or the tour company.)

The Platters in Frankenmuth

(Wed., Mar. 11; \$45)

Soaring Eagle Casino

(Wed., Mar. 18; \$20)

Mardi Gras Casino

(Mon.-Tues., Mar. 30-31; \$69)

Mississippi River Gambling

(Mon.-Wed., Apr. 20-22; \$152)

Soaring Eagle Casino

(Thurs., May 14; \$20)

Branson, Missouri

(Mon.-Sat., Nov. 16-21; \$645)

Lunch at Leon's

The Romulus Senior Center's van will be traveling to Leon's for lunch on Friday, January 30, at 11 a.m. Cost is \$1.50 for transportation plus the price of your meal.

Speaking of Transportation ...

Seniors who reside in the Romulus Tower or Whispering Willows apartment buildings will find that participating in the Senior Center's Friday trips is more convenient than ever. That's because the Center has begun making passenger pickups at both of these locations as well as at the Center. Cost is still only \$1.50 for most trips.

Craft Classes

The Center's weekly craft classes will resume in February, and a number of projects have already been planned to get your creative juices flowing! For more information, check the February 6 issue of "the little paper" or call the Center.

Haircuts

Senior citizens can come into the Romulus Senior Center for \$5 haircuts on the second Monday of each month beginning at 1 p.m. (next date: February 9). Walk-ins are always welcome, but, for your own convenience, the Center recommends calling ahead for an appointment. Note: Since "shampoo" facilities are not available, seniors must arrive with clean hair.

Keep Your Vow To Keep Your Health

If you're trying to stick to your New Year's resolution to take better care of yourself, the Romulus Senior Center can help. Exercise under the direction of Richard Simmons' *Silver Foxes* video (contact the Center for information about days and times), or stride your way to fitness by participating in the Center's indoor walking club, which meets each Wednesday at 9 a.m. And don't forget to take advantage of the Center's free, semimonthly blood-pressure checks, performed at 1 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month by the folks from Gran Care Home Health.

Commodities Available at the Center

The Romulus Senior Center will be distributing commodities to qualified individuals on the third Thursday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Preregistration (Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; bring proof of income) is required. Next date: February 19.

Volunteers Needed

The Wayne County Office of Nutrition Services is seeking volunteers to deliver hot meals to home-bound seniors in Romulus. All that is needed is a willing heart, transportation, and 30 to 60 minutes, one to five mornings per week. Volunteers receive a 21-cents-per-mile reimbursement.

For more information, call Fran Ryder at 326-4441. □

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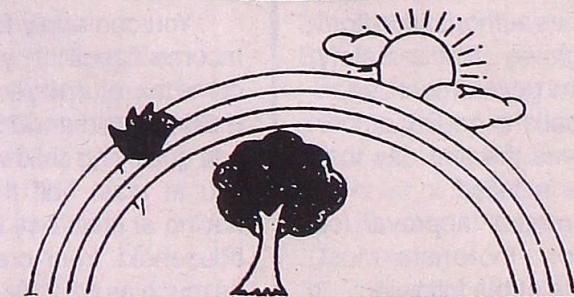
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New Patients Welcome

Answers

answers to puzzles from page 8

1) glance; 2) clean; 3) cane
 4) cronies; 5) cosine; 6) since
 7) poodle; 8) loped; 9) pled
 10) caulked; 11) lacked; 12) decal
 13) Fender; 14) defer; 15) reed
 16) cathode; 17) Choate; 18) teach
 19) harvest; 20) starve; 21) Vesta
 22) promise; 23) simper; 24) prime
 25) ghosts; 26) shots; 27) toss
 28) sweater; 29) Easter; 30) terse
 31) diapers; 32) spread; 33) pears
 34) located; 35) coated; 36) cadet
 37) lawyer; 38) weary; 39) year

"groundhog will / look for shadow"

YOU'LL FIND IT IN "GROUNDHOG":

dong, door, dour, drug, dung, gong, good,
 grog, hood, horn, hour, hung, odor, rood,
 rung, undo, donor, dough, gourd, honor,
 hound, rondo, rough, round, ground

Basketball at RHS

Varsity/JV Boys' Basketball

- Ypsilanti-Lincoln at Romulus (Tue., Jan. 27, at 5:30 p.m.)
- Wayne at Romulus (Fri., Jan. 30, 5:30 p.m.)
- River Rouge at Romulus (Tue., Feb. 3, 5:30 p.m.)
- Monroe at Romulus (Fri., Feb. 6, 5:30 p.m.)

Freshman Boys' Basketball

- Monroe at Romulus (Tue., Jan. 27, 4 p.m.)
- Inkster at Romulus (Fri., Jan. 30, 4 p.m.)
- Romulus at Ypsilanti (Tue., Feb. 3, 4 p.m.)
- Belleville I at Romulus (Fri., Feb. 6, 4 p.m.)

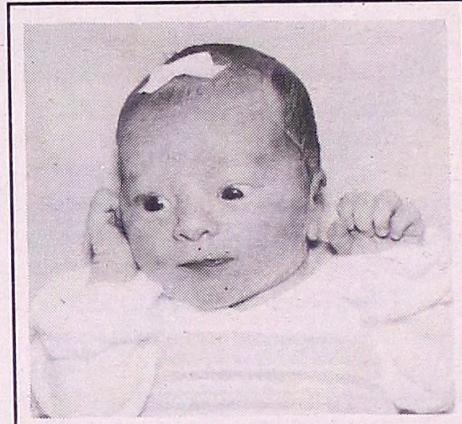
New Arrival

Alyssa Francine Bergmooser

Proudly announcing the birth of their new daughter, Alyssa Francine Bergmooser, are Alan and Gina Bergmooser of Romulus, Michigan.

Born at Grace Hospital (Detroit, MI) at 8:27 a.m. on Sunday, December 7, 1997, Alyssa weighed in at seven pounds, one-quarter ounce, and measured 19 inches in length.

Alyssa is the fifteenth grandchild of her paternal grandparents, Dick and Alice Bergmooser (Romulus, MI), and the eighth of her maternal grandparents, Frank and Frances Maiani (Romulus, MI). □



Alyssa Francine Bergmooser

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 8, 1997

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, December 8, 1997 was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by President Julie A. Oleszkowicz.

Roll call showed all Members present. All Administrators were present.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Oleszkowicz.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

12/97/1 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlinn that the Agenda be approved as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

12/97/2 Moved by Berlinn supported by Lenossi to approve the Minutes of the November 24, 1997 meeting as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

None.

Bills for Payment

12/97/3 Moved by Gondek supported by Berlinn to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Curriculum – Alignment and Assessment

Mr. Daniel Hurst and Mr. Edward Clark were present and shared their goals and direction in Curriculum, Alignment and Assessment with the Board of Education.

Pay Adjustment – Lunch Supervisors

12/97/4 Moved by Lenossi supported by Woods that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve a 50-cents-an-hour increase for noon lunch supervisors retroactive to the beginning of the 1997-98 school year. Ayes: 6. Nays: 1 (Kesner). Motion carried.

County-sponsored Ford School

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, discussed a newsletter containing comments made by Governor Engler about the charter school sponsored by RESA. Dr. Bedell stated that nineteen (19) districts lost high-end students and revenue to this program.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Members of the audience discussed their concerns as they pertain to the operation of the School District.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Dr. William M. Bedell, Superintendent, shared the following items with the Board of Education: 1) NCA – Romulus Presentation; 2) Tech Prep Memo – November 24, 1997; 3) Middle School – Foreign Language Memo; 4) State Superintendent Letter – Grants; and 5) Finance Committee Minutes.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

None.

Executive Session – Negotiations

12/97/5 Moved by Gondek supported by Kesner that the Board convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing negotiations. Roll call vote showed: Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 8:55 P.M. and reconvened in Regular Session at 9:17 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT:

12/97/6 Moved by Gondek supported by Woods that the meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
 Betty M. Lenossi, Secretary
 Romulus Board of Education

Obituaries

Cathleen Combs

Cathleen Y. Combs of Sumpter Township, Michigan, died on Saturday, January 10, 1998. She was 68 years old.

Born in Middletown, Ohio, on October 24, 1929, Cathleen was the daughter of Edward and Lillian Graham.

She is survived by seven daughters, Sherry Combs (Harrison, MI), Marketa (and her husband Lou Alan) Mutschler (Milan, MI), Leslie Jo Combs (Hollywood, FL), Keenya

Combs (Belleville), Jonnie Jean (and her husband David) Booth (Romulus, MI), Susan Combs (Belleville, MI), and Kor Tina Combs (Belleville, MI); one son, Jim (and his wife Cheryl) Combs (Flat Rock, MI); 19 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. Three brothers and one sister predeceased her.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial tributes in Cathleen's name may be made to the Feed the Children organization.

Harry E. Pelky

Harry E. Pelky of Westland, Michigan, died on Friday, January 9, at the age of 66.

The American Legion member and Royal Arch 32nd Degree Mason of Wayne Masonic Lodge #112 was born in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, on November 5, 1931. He and his wife, Olivia Joan, were married on June 27, 1980.

Harry is survived by his wife; one son, Harry J. Pelky; five daughters, Mrs. Melvin (Judy) Wyant, Mrs. Whitey (Vera) Vallias, Miss Betty Jean Pelky, Mrs. Thomas (Nancy) Johnson, and Mrs. Thelma Joyce Freed-

line; three brothers, Frank, John, and Earl Pelky; three sisters, Mrs. Helen Knox, Theresa Rassey, and Mrs. Mike (Lilian) Trot; 14 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, January 24, at Westland Masonic Lodge #112 (Westland, MI). Cremation services will be performed by Tri-County Cremation Services (Ypsilanti, MI).

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI).

Memorial tributes in Harry's name may be made to any charitable organization.

Lena M. (Gregory) Potter

Lena M. (Gregory) Potter of Romulus, Michigan, died on Tuesday, January 20, 1998, at the age of 78.

A native of Ripley, New York, Lena was born on January 11, 1920.

She is survived by one daughter, Patsy L. Mullins (Romulus, MI); one brother, William; six sisters, Sara, Iva

Jean, Barbara, Pauline, Mabel, and Lilly; and two grandchildren, Michael and Sean. Predeceasing her were her husband, Paul Potter; two brothers; and one sister.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, January 21, at Glenwood Cemetery (Wayne, MI). □

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